

January 25-27, 2014

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Ingham joins ranks of mental health court programs

"Ingham County's 55th District Court has joined the ranks of courts opting for treatment of mentally ill defendants instead of sending them to jail."

[Full story](#)

Detroit News: Bill would make State Bar membership dues optional in Michigan

"Call it the right to litigate. The Michigan Legislature's right-to-work war may be reignited at the state Capitol through a new legislative attempt to free attorneys from mandatory bar association dues.....Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Young Jr., a Republican-nominated jurist, says he believes there is value in having a mandatory attorneys Bar, but argues "First Amendment questions — of free speech and association — are implicated" by mandatory membership. "The Michigan Supreme Court has attempted in the past to balance these competing interests, and it is probably time again to examine how the Bar's ideological activities impinge upon its members' First Amendment rights," Young said in a statement to The Detroit News."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Perkins appointed to 36th District Court

"Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed David Perkins, of Detroit, to the 36th District Court, which serves the city of Detroit."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Michigan medical marijuana law leads to record revenues, sharp drop in licensed growers

"Michigan's medical marijuana program generated record revenues last fiscal year despite declining enrollment numbers and a steep drop in registered caregivers.....Michigan's medical marijuana program generated record revenues last fiscal year despite declining enrollment numbers and a steep drop in registered caregivers."

[Full story](#)

Mlive: Kalamazoo County courts, government offices to close at 3 p.m. due to weather

"Kalamazoo County courts and government offices will close at 3 p.m. Monday due to severe weather conditions."

[Full story](#)

Mlive: Kalamazoo County judge elected president of state judges association; circuit court changes up leadership

"Longtime Kalamazoo County Circuit Judge Stephen D. Gorsalitz has been elected as president of the Michigan Judges Association."

[Full story](#)

MLW Blog: Lawyer must pay \$800 for attacking judge in recusal motion

"A lawyer was properly sanctioned \$800 for acting unprofessionally and attacking a trial judge in a recusal motion he filed, the Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled."

[Full story](#)

Oakland Press: Court filings contentious in Prosecutor's Office's complaint against Novi judge

"In the most recent court filing regarding the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office's complaint against a Novi district judge, prosecutors have called the judge's arguments "extraneous, irrelevant and legally incorrect." The document, filed Tuesday, Jan. 14, is the latest in a series of court filings in the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office's case against longtime Novi District Judge Brian MacKenzie."

[Full story](#)

Petoskey News: Engstrom enters race for 33rd Circuit judgeship

A second candidate is entering the race for the 33rd Circuit Court judgeship. Edward F. Engstrom, 52, of Charlevoix, became the latest candidate to enter the race to fill retiring Judge Richard Pajitas' seat. Val Snyder, an attorney and Charlevoix Public School Board member, has also filed to run for the bench in November 2014."

[Full story](#)